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## NEWS RELEASE

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Roberto A. Villaseñor  
Chief of Police

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**Date:** 01/06/2012  
**TDD:** 791-2639

### RESIDENTIAL ARSONIST ARRESTED

A male that set fire to two separate residences in the early morning of January 6, 2012 has been arrested. At approximately 3:53 a.m., a patrol officer from Operations Division Midtown was responding to an unrelated call for service when he observed signs, smoke and flames, of a residential fire in the area of North Swan Road and East Speedway Boulevard. The officer requested assistance from additional patrol resources as well as the Tucson Fire Department once he discovered that the residence located at **1208 North Swan Road** was on fire. While officers and firefighters were addressing the residence at 1208 North Swan Road, they were advised that another residence nearby had been set on fire as well. A citizen had called 911 to report that the residence at **1232 North Swan Road** appeared to be on fire. Officers and fire department personnel checked the second residence and confirmed that a fire had also been set there. The residence at 1232 North Swan Road was vacant. There had been two residents inside of the house at 1208 North Swan Road when it was set ablaze. However, both of them were alerted to the fire early enough to escape from the home unharmed. The damage to both residences was significant.

Detectives from the Tucson Police Department Special Investigations Arson Unit as well as Investigators from the Tucson Fire Department responded to complete a more thorough examination into the causes and/or origins of each fire. They determined that the fires were arsons, having been set intentionally. Also, due to the proximity of the houses and the timeframe in which they were both set ablaze, it was likely that the same suspect(s) started both fires. During the course of the investigation, the detectives learned that a patrol officer had contacted an adult male in the area of the residences upon his approach. The officer had been responding to the request for additional assistance at the scene of the first discovered fire when he noticed the male in the area and stopped to talk to him. After obtaining the male's name and basic biographical information, he allowed him to leave. When detectives conducted interviews with several witnesses during the course of their investigation, they realized that the description of the possible arson suspect closely matched that of the male that the patrol officer had contacted in the area.

The male was identified as **21-year old Curtis Brown**. Detectives located Mr. Brown during the day on January 6, 2012. He admitted his involvement in the setting of both fires and implicated no other individuals. Mr. Brown was ultimately arrested for **2 counts of Arson of an Occupied Structure, a Class 2 Felony and 2 counts of Criminal Damage, a Class 5 Felony**. He was transported and booked into the Pima County Jail. His photograph is included below.

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For accommodations; materials in accessible formats; foreign language interpreters; and/or materials in a language other than English, please contact the Tucson Police Department Public Information Office at (520) 791-4852 or (520) 791-2639 for TDD at least five (5) business days in advance. Para arreglos; materiales en formatos accesibles; interpretes de idioma extranjero; y/o materiales en otro idioma que no sea inglés, por favor comunicarse al Departamento de la Policía de Tucson a la sección de Información Pública al (520) 791-4852 o (520) 791-2639 para TDD por lo menos con cinco (5) días hábiles de anticipación.



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Curtis Brown

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